

Rongomai School

Empowered to Take Risks; Determined to Succeed

Phone: 274 6055 Fax: 274 5007 Email: admin@rongomai.school.nz

Website: www.rongomai.school.nz

NEWSLETTER

Rāapa 30 Here-turi-kōkā 2017 – Wednesday 30 August 2017

SchoolDooes Policies and Procedures

All our policies and procedures are now accessible on our Rongomai SchoolDooes site. SchoolDooes is an online tracking and management system that ensures that our policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and accessible to our community.

The following policy is due for review: Students with Special Needs/Learning Support

Please follow the instructions below to access and review this policy on our SchoolDooes site:

1. Visit the website <http://rongomai.schooldooes.co.nz/18993.htm>
 2. Enter the username (rongomai) and password (empowered).
 3. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.
 4. Read the policy. Click the Policy Review button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
 5. Select the reviewer type "Parent".
- Enter your name (optional).
Submit your ratings and comments.
- If you don't have internet access, school office staff can provide you with printed copies of the policy and a review form.

Tongan Language Week

Next week (3rd – 9th September) is Tongan Language Week. Like Kāroanga'i 'o e lea faka-Tonga gives students of all ethnicities the chance to learn some basic lea faka-Tonga, and gives students who speak lea faka-Tonga the chance to be experts in the classroom.

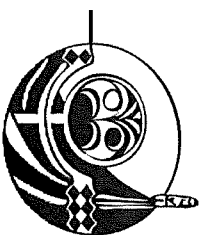
You can follow our celebrations on our school facebook page or our classroom blogs!

Otara Schools Polyfest

Next Friday 9th September, Kia Aroha College are hosting our very first Otara Schools Polyfest. Rongomai's Kapa Haka, Cook Islands, Samoan and Tongan groups will be performing as will other culture groups from Wymondley, Flatbush, Ferguson Intermediate, St Johns and Kia Aroha College. We will walk down to Kia Aroha College (51 Otello Drive, Otara) weather permitting and we hope to spend the whole day there. Please complete the permission slip below and send it to school with your child tomorrow.

Kia manuia,

Paeariki Johnson (Principal)



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Tēnā koutou, Kia orana,
Malo ni, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Talofa lava,
Malo e lelei, Mauri, Mamaste and
Greetings!

Cook Islands Language Week

This term has been 'jam-packed' with many exciting events taking place. Thank you to Miss Tumutoa, Matua Vae and Mama Ngetere for planning and organising an educationally rich and engaging Cook Islands Language programme for our tamariki and staff! Meitaki maata to our Vaine Tini (Cook Islands Women's Group) for your time, creativity and resources in setting up beautiful Cook Islands displays around our school and finally, congratulations to our Cook Islands students who represented their culture with great pride and confidence. Well done Maria Karoa, Kingtson Ofahengaue, Arcadia Maxwell and Christian Joseph for leading our Turu (Cook Islands Pouniri) which is a first for Rongomai School! Meitaki atupaka to our many other Cook Islands students for your great

contribution in making our Cook Islands Cultural Celebrations such a great success.

Teina and Clicks

Thank you to David Riley and his Tangaroa College drama class for inviting Rongomai to see Teina and Clicks. Thank you also to the Vodafone Events Centre for sponsoring our entire school to see the show for free. Our children and staff enjoyed the wonderful Pasifika flavour and zeal that transpired throughout the show. Tangaroa College has some talented actors!

Play It Strange!

Many of you may have read the newspaper articles or seen our school on Seven Sharp. Thanks to Matua Lui and his wonderful connections with the Play It Strange Foundation, Play It Strange chose our school to gift a piano to and launch their 100 Pianos' competition – a competition where schools in NZ have a chance to win a Huawei piano! Check out our Rongomai

School facebook page to read more about this event.
We are overwhelmed with gratitude to Huawei and Play It Strange for our brand new piano and now our music suite is complete. I am looking forward to the great music our children will create once our music suite is in full swing!

Reading Workshop for Parents

- Pause, Prompt, Praise

Thank you to our wonderful parents and whanau who attended our Reading Workshop! There were some great discussions. Parents felt comfortable enough to ask questions and seek further advice of how they can support their children's learning at home.
It is crucial that your child reads for at least 10-15 minutes every day at home! Everyday your child should be bringing home a reader. Please speak to your child's teacher if this is not happening.

At the end of term 2, **37.2% of our students were reading at or above our school's expectation in Reading.** Our end of year goal is to have at least **55%** of our students **reading at or above** the expectation.

CHALLENGE to Parents/Whanau

Help us to achieve our School's Reading target by simply reading with your child/ren for just 10-15 minutes every day. Let's be the best!

Oral Language Workshop for Parents

Thank you again to our wonderful families and children who attended our Oral Language workshop. It was such an interactive and fun night!
At Rongomai we know that regular exposure to rich language and talk can help our children to become successful communicators, readers and writers and the purpose for this workshop was to have our teachers share some simple and effective activities for parents to use at home with their children in developing their oral language skills. Strong oral language will help to improve our children's reading and writing.

At the end of term 2, **44.1% of our students were reading at or above our school's expectation in Writing.** Our end of year goal is to have at least **49%** of our students reading at or above the expectation. We are closing the gap towards meeting our school target!

CHALLENGE to Parents/Whanau

Help us to achieve our School's Writing target by getting your child/ren to talk about their day, their interests, their friends and their dreams etc.
If our children can talk about their ideas and express themselves verbally, they will have something of great personal interest to write about.
Let's be the best!

Feed the Need Assembly

Last week we held a special assembly to formally thank the Feed the Need Charitable Trust and welcome Labour Leader Jacinda Ardern, Jenny Salea and Annette King. Our Rongomaites did our school proud! We received raving reviews about their singing and beautiful, caring and friendly nature.

Feed the Need have provided every one of our Rongomaites with hot and healthy food during the winter months and Harcourts Cooper & Co raised at least \$20,000 to cover the cost of these meals at no cost to our school community. Check out their visit to Rongomai School on our school facebook page. Here's the link to Harcourts Cooper & Co's Rongomai visit.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7uXFg76FXUo>

Classroom Transitions

Due to an expanding roll in our junior classrooms, we are forced to transition some of our students in Rooms 5, 8, 9 & 10 to new classrooms next Monday 4th September. All parents and caregivers of children being moved should have received a letter informing them of the move.

Classroom Removal Project

PDS Demolition Contractors have been employed to begin the removal of Rooms 1, 2 & 3. They have already taken steps to disconnect the power in these rooms and will be working over the next few weeks to break these classrooms down for removal offsite. This area will be sectioned off for our safety. Only authorised personnel will be permitted into this area. The removal project is expected to be completed by the beginning of term 4.

SKIDS

Due to the removal of Rooms 1, 2 & 3, SKIDS afterschool care will now operate from the Learning Support Centre (building next to our school carpark). For all enquiries regarding SKIDS call - 022 54 75437 or Rush de Silva on 0800 386 543.